

REMARKS

After entry of the present amendment, claims 1 to 6, 9 and 10 will be pending. Claims 1 to 6, 9 and 10 are amended herein, and claim 7 has been canceled, without prejudice. No claims have been added.

The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors. Each of the pending claims also contain editorial revisions, made to correct typographical errors and/or to clarify the definitions of the variables. Claim 1 has also been amended to exclude compounds disclosed in the Gray et al. article cited in the Office Action, and to delete the unnecessary provisos. Applicants respectfully submit that these claim amendments overcome the rejection of claims 1 to 6 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 112, second paragraph. The cancellation of claim 7 renders moot the double patenting rejection.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 first paragraph. While Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner on this point, in the interest of advancing prosecution of this application to allowance, Applicants have amended claim 9 to recite a method for treatment of stroke, anxiety, irritable bowel syndrome, depression and affective disorder. It was indicated in the Office Action that the specification was considered to enable methods of treating stroke, anxiety, irritable bowel syndrome and depression. Applicants respectfully submit that the specification also enables methods for the treatment of affective disorder, otherwise known as major depression. The correlation between CRF antagonism and treatment of affective disorder is well established in the art, as discussed, for example, in the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 of the application as filed.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for all of pending claims 1 to 6, 9 and 10 is respectfully requested.

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PATENT

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